

Message Text

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FOR: STATE FOR CU/AF, USIA FOR IAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, ET

SUBJECT: PROJECT FOR FOREIGN MUSEUM PROFESSIONALS

REF: STATE 044967

1. POST NOMINATES ATO (MR.) MAMMO TESSEMA, GENERAL MANAGER, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ETHIOPIA, TO PARTICIPATE IN SUBJECT PROJECT. BIODATA FOLLOWS.

2. MAMMO TESSEMA: BORN AUG. 24, 1935, NEKEMPTE, ETHIOPIA. EDUCATION: B.F.A., M.F.A. (CERAMIC DESIGN) ALFRED UNIVERSITY STATE COLLEGE OF CREAMICS (1958-62). PAST POSITIONS: SHIP MASTER, HIM HANDICRAFT SCHOOL, CURATOR, DIRECTOR AND DIRECTOR-GENERAL, NATIONAL MUSEUM. HONORS AND MEMBERSHIPS: DELEGATE TO INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS, EXPOS AND COMMITTEES FOR INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS; MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR WORLD CRAFTS COUNCIL; PRIZE WINNER FOR PLASTIC ARTS IN AFRICA. PUBLICATIONS: NUMEROUS ARTICLES ON ETHIOPIAN HANDICRAFTS. ETHIOPIAN ANCIENT AND MODERN ARTS AND CRAFTS. TRAVEL ABROAD: NORTH AMERICA (1968), LATIN AMERICA, EUROPE, ASIA, WEST AND NORTH AFRICA ON OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT BUSINESS. ATO MAMMO IS MARRIED WITH FOUR CHILDREN. SPECIAL INTERESTS: MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT, CERAMIC ART, INDUSTRIAL DESIGN AND CRAFTS.

3. JUSTIFICATION: NATIONAL MUSEUM ONE OF TWO LEADING MUSEUMS IN ETHIOPIA, AND ONLY MUSEUM INCLUDING EXTENSIVE ETHNOLOGICAL, UNCLASSIFIED

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ARCHEOLOGICAL, ARTISTIC COLLECTIONS. NEVERTHELESS, THE MUSEUM

WOULD BENEFIT GREATLY FROM SOME DEGREE OF MODERNIZATION. ATO MAMMO EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING MUSEUM'S CAPABILITIES ALONG THESE LINES, POST BELIEVES THIS PROJECT TAILORED TO EXACTLY FIT MUSEUM'S NEEDS AND ATO MAMMO'S OWN GOALS FOR THIS INSTITUTION. IN ADDITION TO HIS PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS, ATO MAMMO IS FULLY COOPERATIVE WITH POST ON MANY OF ITS ART PROJECTS AND HAS, AT POST REQUEST, FREQUENTLY BRIEFED AMERICAN VISITORS ON ETHIOPIAN ARTS AND ARTIFACTS. HIS ENGLISH IS EXCELLENT.

4. AS ALTERNATE TO ATO MAMMO, POST NOMINATES DR. GIRMA KIDANE, CURATOR OF THE MUSEUM OF THE INSTITUTE OF ETHIOPIAN STUDIES, ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY. HIS BIODATA FOLLOWS.

5. DR. GIRMA KIDANE: BORN 1941. EDUCATION: CHARLES UNIVERSITY, PRAGUE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, ADVIANCED DEGREE IN ART AND ETHNOLOGY. PAST POSITION: ASSISTANT CURATOR, MUSEUM OF THE INSTITUTE OF ETHIOPIAN STUDIES, 1972-75. PUBLICATIONS: DR. GIRMA HAS PUBLISHED SEVERAL PROFESSIONAL ARTICLES IN HIS FIELD. TRAVEL ABROAD: HE HAS TRAVELED EXTENSIVELY IN WESTERN AND EASTERN EUROPE, BUT HAS NEVER BEEN TO THE UNITED STATES. HE IS MARRIED WITH TWO CHILDREN. SPECIAL INTERESTS: DR. GIRMA IS A PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED PAINTER AND SCULPTOR WHO HAS EXHIBITED IN EUROPE IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS. HIS ENGLISH IS EXCELLENT.
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